3. Monitoring at different levels in the Government of India:

a. Daily Monitoring by Ministry of Power on the basis of Management Information Systems (MIS) of Central Electricity Authority, and interactions among Secretary (Coal), Secretary (Power) and Chairman, Railway Board;

b. Monthly Review by Secretary (Coordination) in the Cabinet Secretariat regarding infrastructure constraints including coal supplies to thermal power stations; and

c. Review by a sub-group headed by the Joint Secretary (Coal) about supply of coal to critical power stations having coal stocks of less than seven days.

New rural electricity infrastructure and household electrification scheme

*215. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved a new rural electricity infrastructure and household electrification scheme providing free single point connection to households below poverty line; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) Yes, Sir. A new scheme of Rural Electricity Infrastruture and household electrification has been approved for the attainment of National Common Minimum Programme of completing Rural Household Electrification in five years.

(b) Under this scheme 90% Capital Subsidy would be provided for :

(i) Creation of Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone (REDB) with one 33/11kV (or 66/11 kV) substation in every block appropriately linked to the State Transmission System.

(ii) Creation of Village Electricity Infrastructure (VEI) for electrification of all unelectrified villages/habitations with distribution transformer(s) in every village/habitation.

(iii) Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) and Supply System for villages/habitations where grid supply is not cost effective and where Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources would not be providing electricity through their programme(s).

(iv) Electrification of all un-electrified Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in the country free of charge.

Pending proposals for economic development of Tamil Nadu

*216. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals pending before Government for industrialisation, trade promotion and setting up of industries for the over-all economic development of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) by when these proposals are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) (a) and (b) Under the liberalised industrial policies, investment decisions are based on the commercial judgment of the entrepreneurs, which in turn is based on the initiative taken by the State Governments/ UTs in creating conducive environment by way of providing basic infrastructural facilities and other incentives. Central Government supplements their efforts to the extent possible by providing support/ incentives under its various schemes.

Tamil Nadu accounts for the highest share among States and UTs at 18.8% in the total number of letter of intents and direct industrial licences issued between August, 1991 to January, 2005. Receipt and sanction of such proposals is a continuous process.

Restrictions on the movement of foreigners in NE States

*217. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some North-Eastern States want the Central Government to ease restrictions on the movement of foreigners in their areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the States which have made this request and the reasons given in support thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) Yes, Sir.